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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I'm writing in support of maintaining (and increasing) competition in the provision of broadband service. I live in northern California, far enough away from San Francisco that my internet options are already limited. I work from home, maintaining contact with my team of remote colleagues via email, instant messaging, and video calls throughout the day--so affordable, reliable, high-speed internet service is critical for my livelihood.

Having previously lived for 12 years in Brooklyn, NY, in a neighborhood where there was only one ISP option, I can attest to the fact that competition yields better service and better pricing (I've never had any issues here in CA, even during the wildfires last year, when AT&T customers lost service; in Brooklyn, outages and extremely slow speeds occurred on a regular basis).

My experience living in a remote, rural area has also demonstrated the importance of fostering the rapid development of new networks to provide internet access to all Americans. This is much like the effort to provide access to electricity during the 20th century--in fact, given the nature of information sharing, commerce, and jobs, universal internet access today is likely more important than the universal electrification of yesteryear. We should be doing everything we can to promote the expansion of networks--not stifling the competition in the broadband arena.

Please do not allow incumbent service providers to escape their obligations under Section 251 of the Communications Act; please support broadband competition and improved internet access for all Americans.

Chris Hunt